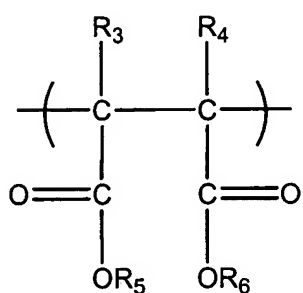


Amendments to the Claims:

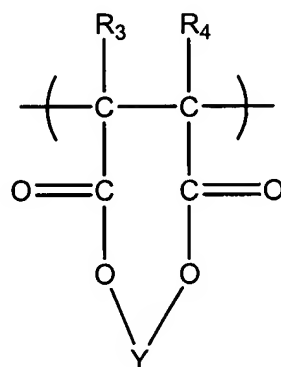
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

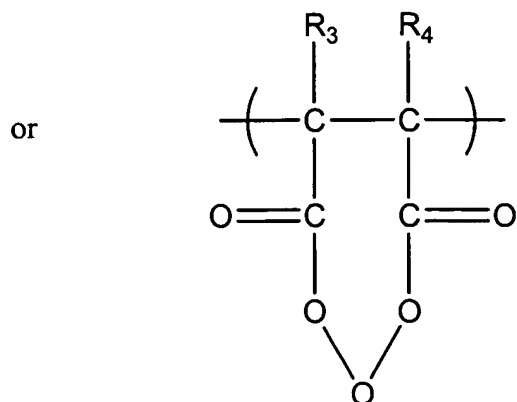
Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A fertilizer product comprising particles of a fertilizer in intimate contact with a polymer, said fertilizer being selected from the group consisting of phosphate-based fertilizers, organic wastes, waste waters, fertilizers containing nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium calcium, magnesium, sulfur, boron, or molybdenum materials, fertilizers containing micronutrients, and oxides, sulfates, chlorides, and chelates of such micronutrients, said polymer comprising recurring polymeric subunits each made up of at least two different moieties individually and respectively taken from the group consisting of B, and C moieties, or recurring C moieties, where moiety B is of the general formula

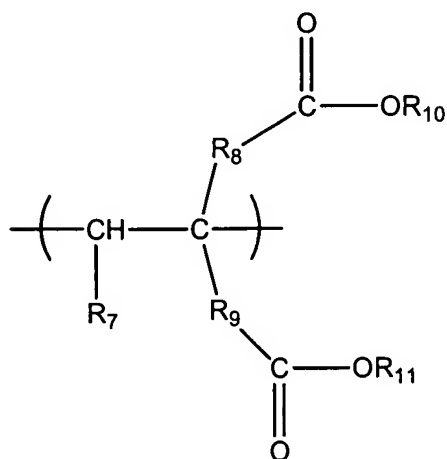


or

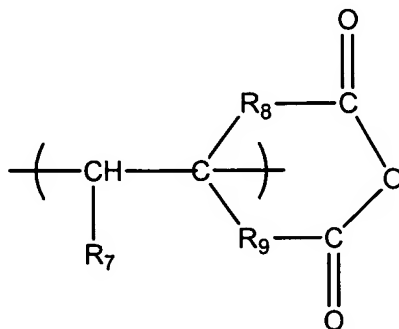




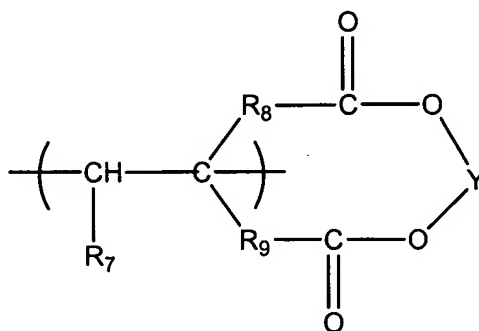
and moiety C is of the general formula



or



or



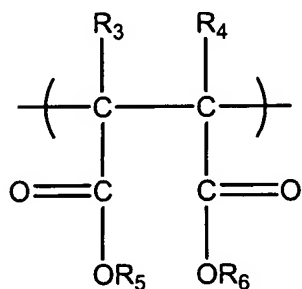
wherein each R₇ is individually and respectively selected from the group consisting of H, OH, C₁-C₃₀ straight, branched chain and cyclic alkyl or aryl groups, C₁-C₃₀ straight, branched chain and cyclic alkyl or aryl formate based ester groups, R'CO₂ groups, OR' groups and COOX groups, wherein R' is selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₃₀ straight, branched chain and cyclic alkyl or aryl groups and X is selected from the group consisting of H, the alkali metals, NH₄ and the C₁-C₄

alkyl ammonium groups, R_3 and R_4 are individually and respectively selected from the group consisting of H, C_1 - C_{30} straight, branched chain and cyclic alkyl or aryl groups, R_5 , R_6 , R_{10} and R_{11} are individually and respectively selected from the group consisting of H, the alkali metals, NH_4 and the C_1 - C_4 alkyl ammonium groups, Y is selected from the group consisting of Fe, Mn, Mg, Zn, Cu, Ni, Co, Mo, V and Ca, and R_8 and R_9 are individually and respectively selected from the group consisting of nothing (i.e., the groups are non-existent), CH_2 , C_2H_4 , and C_3H_6 , each of said moieties having or being modified to have a total of two COO groups therein.

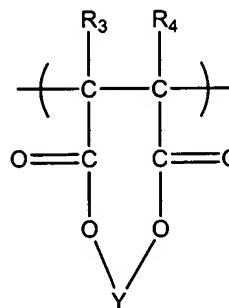
2. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 1, said polymer and fertilizer being co-ground together.
3. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 1, said polymer being applied to the surface of said fertilizer.
4. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 1, said fertilizer being in the form of particles having an average diameter of from about powder size to about 10 cm.
5. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 1, said polymer being present in said fertilizer product at a level of from about 0.001 g to about 20 g polymer per 100 g fertilizer.

6. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 1, said polymer being complexed with an ion.
7. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 6, said ion being selected from the group consisting of Fe, Mn, Mg, Zn, Cu, Ni, Co, Mo, V and Ca.
8. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 1, said polymer substantially coating the surface of said fertilizer.
9. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 9, said product generating less dust than fertilizers without added polymer.
10. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 9, said coating being applied at a level of at least about 0.01% by weight of the coated fertilizer product.
11. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 9, said coating resulting in the complete inhibition of dust generation.
12. (Withdrawn)
13. (Withdrawn)
14. (Withdrawn)

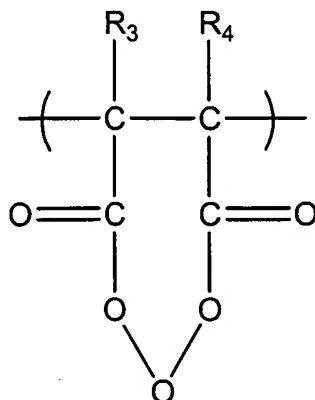
15. (Withdrawn)
16. (Withdrawn)
17. (Withdrawn)
18. (Withdrawn)
19. (Withdrawn)
20. (Withdrawn)
21. (Withdrawn)
22. (Withdrawn)
23. (Original) A fertilizer product comprising particles of a fertilizer selected from the group consisting of phosphate-based fertilizers, organic wastes, waste waters, fertilizers containing nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium calcium, magnesium, sulfur, boron, or molybdenum materials, fertilizers containing micronutrients, and oxides, sulfates, chlorides, and chelates of such micronutrients, said fertilizer being in intimate contact with a composition comprising a dicarboxylic acid polymer having recurring polymeric subunits each made up of at least two different moieties individually and respectively taken from the group consisting of B and C moieties, or recurring C moieties, wherein moiety B is of the general formula



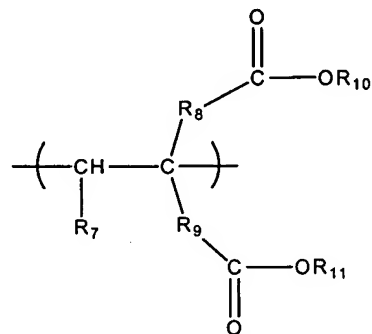
or



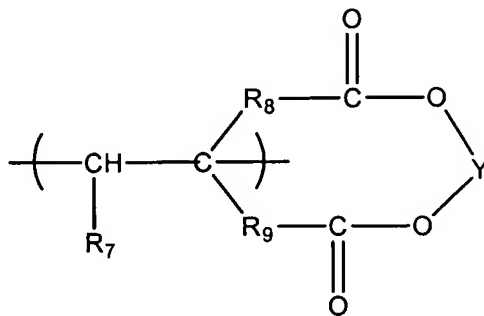
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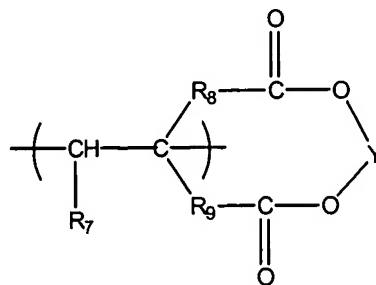
and moiety C is of the general formula



or



or



wherein each R_7 is individually and respectively selected from the group consisting of H, OH, C_1 - C_{30} straight, branched chain and cyclic alkyl or aryl groups, C_1 - C_{30} straight, branched chain and cyclic alkyl or aryl based ester groups, $R'CO_2$ groups, OR' groups and $COOX$ groups, wherein R' is selected from the group consisting of C_1 - C_{30} straight, branched chain and cyclic alkyl or aryl groups and X is selected from the group consisting of H, the alkali metals, NH_4 and the C_1 - C_4 alkyl ammonium groups, R_3 and R_4 are individually and respectively selected from the group consisting of H, C_1 - C_{30} straight, branched chain and cyclic alkyl or aryl groups, R_5 , R_6 , R_{10} and R_{11} are individually and respectively selected from the group consisting of H, the alkali metals, NH_4 and the C_1 - C_4 alkyl ammonium groups, Y is selected from the group consisting of Fe, Mn, Mg, Zn, Cu, Ni, Co, Mo, V and Ca, and R_8 and R_9 are individually and respectively selected from the group consisting of nothing (i.e., the groups are non-existent), CH_2 , C_2H_4 , and C_3H_6 , each of said moieties having or being modified to have a total of two COO groups therein.

24. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 23, said polymer and said fertilizer being co-ground together.

25. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 23, said polymer being applied to the surface of said fertilizer.
26. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 23, said fertilizer being in the form of particles having an average diameter of from about powder size to about 10 cm.
27. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 23, said polymer being present in said fertilizer product at a level of from about 0.001 g to about 20 g of polymer per 100 g fertilizer.
28. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 23, said polymer being complexed with an ion.
29. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 28 said ion being selected from the group consisting of Fe, Mn, Mg, Zn, Cu, Ni, Co, Mo, V and Ca.
30. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 25, said polymer substantially coating the surface of said fertilizer.
31. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 25, said product generating a decreased amount of dust in comparison to fertilizers which do not have polymer on their surface.
32. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 30, said coating level being at least about

0.005% by weight of the coated fertilizer product.

- 33. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 30, said product generating little or no dust.
- 34. (Original) The fertilizer product of claim 33, said product generating no dust after abrasion resistance testing in accordance with Example 20.
- 35. (Withdrawn)
- 36. (Withdrawn)